

10/751,165  
P446

ATTACHMENT (A)

AMENDMENT "B" CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. (currently amended) A laundry collection bin assembly for a commercial laundry and which comprises a frame resting on a floor and a bin supported in the frame the bin having a mouth oriented to receive items of laundry and a bottom supporting said items within the bin, the frame further including a track which has an upward inclination relative to the floor with the bin being displaceable along the track for both upwards movement away from said floor and horizontal movement relative to the floor to move the bin from a lowered position in which the bottom is closed to a raised discharge position in which the bottom of the bin is open and is sufficiently clear of the floor to permit discharge of any items in the bin through the bottom of said bin onto a conveyor.
2. (currently amended) An assembly as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the track comprises a pair of spaced apart substantially parallel rails arranged one on each side of a pair of opposite sides of the bin with one end proximate to the floor and the other end cantilevered outwards from the frame to provide the raised discharge position.
3. (currently amended) An assembly as claimed in Claim 2, wherein ~~the rails~~ each comprise rail comprises a "U" cross- section channel with the mouths of the two channels arranged in opposition, and bearing means mounted on the bin are engagable within the opposed channels.
4. (previously presented) An assembly as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the track is arcuate having one end proximate to the floor with said track extending away from the floor so that the other end of the track is raised above the floor and is located above the conveyor.

5. (currently amended) An assembly as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the bin is held in the frame in a tilted condition with said mouth presented to receive said items of laundry, and the angle of inclination of the bin to the ground increases as the bin moves along the track towards its raised discharge position.

6. (original) An assembly as claimed in Claim 5, wherein the bin is inclined at about 45° in the lowered position and at least 60° in the raised discharge position.

7. (original) An assembly as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the bin is moved along the track by at least one actuator operable between the frame and the bin.

8. (previously presented) An assembly as claimed in Claim 7, wherein there are two actuators arranged one on each of said opposing sides of the bin.

9. (previously presented) An assembly as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the bin is substantially square in cross-section and when in a lowered position is tilted at about 45° to the vertical with the forward edge of said mouth being a maximum height of 1100 mm above the floor with the forward bottom edge being proximate the floor.

10. (previously presented) An assembly as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the bin has said bottom closed when in the lowered position and said bottom gradually opens as the bin is moved to the raised discharge position.

11. (previously presented) An assembly as claimed in Claim 10, wherein the bottom of the bin is formed by a shutter secured to the frame so that a laundry discharge gap opens as the bin moves towards the discharge position.

13. (original) An assembly as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the frame comprises two parts, a base part standing on the floor, and an upper part on which the track and bin are mounted, with the upper part resting on the base part, and a load

sensor acts between the two parts to indicate to an operator when the bin is nominally full to capacity.

14. (previously presented) A commercial laundry system including the conveyor with at least one said collection bin assembly according to Claim 1, arranged to one side of the conveyor, the discharge position for said one bin being located above the conveyor.